

The Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D.C. 20505

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Intelligence Community Staff

DCI/IC 82-3623
20 July 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Charles A. Hawkins, Jr.
Assistant Deputy Under Secretary
of Defense (Intelligence)

FROM:

Director, Program and Budget Staff

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SUBJECT: Potential for Use of U-2R Aircraft as Attrition
Fillers for the TR-1 Force

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REFERENCE: Your memo, dated 15 July 1983, same subject

1. I appreciate your bringing to my attention the emerging issue of using the U-2R fleet to back-up a reduced TR-1 fleet. There has not been time to develop a full-fledged DCI position, but I can provide initial Staff views based on what we know at present.

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2. The DCI has been striving to restore the U-2R fleet to a total of 12 (backed by two trainers). This is the minimum number needed to support peacetime requirements with a surge to meet surge requirements in a crisis situation not involving Central Europe. In the case of crisis or war in Central Europe, we anticipate an increased requirement for contingency strategic reconnaissance by the U-2R in such peripheral areas as Korea and the Middle East. It is, therefore, unlikely that the DCI could agree, a priori, to planned reliance on the U-2R fleet to provide attrition fillers for the TR-1 mission in Europe.

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3. It does make sense, as the Air Force proposes, to provide common wiring for the U-2R fleet and the TR-1s. This would allow airframe management flexibility for SAC in peacetime and allow the DCI and Secretary of Defense to allocate assets in crises or wartime as circumstances dictate at that time.

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4. We are prepared to support you on this issue in any way we can. If the decision is to rely on the U-2Rs to back up a reduced TR-1 fleet, the DCI should be allowed to comment formally to the Secretary of Defense.

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